

**TROUBLE IS NOW
BREWING IN UNION**

Alleged Threat of Gov. Blease to Remove Sheriff Fant From Office for Failure to Enforce Liquor Laws—Situation Result of Detective's Activity. Statements of Gov. Blease and Mayor Duncan.

Columbia, March 26.—A sharp clash between the city and county officials of Union on one side, and Gov. Blease on the other appears imminent. As a result, the people of Union city and county are very much wrought up, momentarily expecting the smouldering flames to break out in some new quarrel in the triangular fight now being staged.

Following the appearance of Representative Fortner, of Union, a Blease member of the Legislature, in Union, with a commission from Gov. Blease as a state detective in his pocket and the big row, it is said, he kicked up by attempting to raid an alleged blind tiger, the mayor of Union and several of the prominent people caustically condemned the Governor for giving a Representative a commission as a detective, and the people of Union, at least many of them, resented the incident bitterly and charged a political plot.

Tuesday Sheriff Fant, of Union, received a letter from the Governor charging the sheriff with being derelict in his duty in enforcing the laws, and strongly intimating that unless he performed his duty he may be removed from office. In his letter to Sheriff Fant the Governor said:

"It has been reliably reported to me that one Will Estes is running an open 'blind tiger' in the town of Union, which is a nuisance to the community; and that J. W. Welling, a negro; J. P. Fant, Miller Fant and Dick English are engaged in violations of the dispensary law.

"It is further reported that the Mayor and the police force in the city of Union are not making any efforts to enforce the dispensary law in the town of Union—in fact, it is reported to me that members of the police force kept special vigilance over one of my detectives, sent there, in order to keep him from accomplishing anything.

"Many complaints are coming to this office about the open, and flagrant violations of the dispensary law in the town of Union, as well as in the county of Union.

"I again write and beg of you to get busy and endeavor to stop these violations of the law.

"I am writing to other sheriffs along the same line, begging them to get busy, and I sincerely hope that all of the officers of the State will remember the oath that they have taken and do something to help me in the enforcement of the law. I cannot do it by myself; I can only urge it upon you whose duty it is."

Concerning a rumor that the Governor had threatened to remove Sheriff Fant from office and appoint former Sheriff Long the sheriff is quoted as having nothing to say, while Mr. Long is quoted as saying he would accept. Mr. Fant defeated Mr. Long for sheriff of Union county last summer.

Mayor Duncan is quoted as follows: "I never give any attention to communications of an anonymous character. Let Gov. Blease give name of his informant, giving him information, so-called, regarding action of Mayor and police force; and it will be shown that his informant is nothing more nor less than a common everyday liar."

Union is a thriving little city of some 5,000 inhabitants in the Piedmont section of South Carolina, and the people are mightily stirred over the threatened clash between the Governor and the local officials.

It is said that Will Estes is the owner of a place which Fortner, while in Union with a detective's commission, said he would raid or he would have the Governor to place Union under martial law.

When asked this morning about the matter Governor Blease said he had not threatened to remove Sheriff Fant; that all such rumors were poppycock. He said that complaints had come to him from as good citizens as were in Union county, complaining of the "wide open" way in which the "blind tigers" were running, and the Governor said it was reported to him that the mayor was

THOUSANDS PERISH IN FLOODS**HOSPITAL ASSN.
MET LAST WEEK**

The Union Hospital Association Met on Wednesday of Last Week and Elected Officers for the Year—Plans for the Hospital Adopted—All the Old Officers Were Reelected for Another Year.

The annual meeting of the Hospital Association was held Wednesday evening of last week. The meeting was called to order by the president, Dr. J. H. Hamilton, the meeting being held in the offices of Dr. Berry.

The chief question brought up was the matter of the erection of a building. The plans chosen by the building committee were endorsed by the whole body and it was agreed unanimously that the work of construction be started, and that when the money gave out the work stop until more could be raised. There is a considerable amount of cash now in hand and quite a number of large subscriptions that will be paid immediately upon the beginning of work.

The election of officers was held and the old officers were re-elected to serve another year. The building committee was also unanimously re-elected.

Mr. R. P. Morgan was chosen a member of the executive committee to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Capt. G. C. Perrin.

Arrested by Federal Officer.

Maryin Charles was arrested Tuesday by a post office inspector and charged with carrying a concealed weapon. Charles has a case pending in the criminal courts here under the same charges as are in the federal indictment.

The Spartanburg correspondent of the State, in writing to that paper, gives the following statement of the case:

Spartanburg, March 25.—L. M. Charles of Union was arrested today on complaint of H. G. Horganroth, postoffice inspector, who accuses Charles of using the mails to defraud whiskey dealers in five cities and also of defrauding railroads in violation of the interstate commerce law. By means of his alleged schemes Charles is said to have received hundreds of gallons of liquor. He was committed to the Spartanburg county jail tonight in default of \$5,000 bail. In ordering whiskey Charles is alleged to have inclosed worthless checks. The charge of defrauding the railroads is based on his alleged forging of bills of lading calling for only one drum.

Charles has been granted bail in the sum of \$5,000 through his attorney, J. Frost Walker, and an investigation will be conducted by United States Commissioner Atkinson, at Union on April 14th.

WAR ON HOOKWORM.

Dr. L. A. Riser, the State Board of Health agent, is meeting with good success in the war now going on against hookworm in this county. Dr. Riser has examined 200 school children and 100 not school attendants, and found one-third of those examined infected. He says the rural school teachers are giving him every assistance in this work, in many cases having every child in school examined. He urges all teachers to write him, giving the number of attendants in their schools and asking any question upon the subject for further information.

Saturday is expected to be a big day at Union, and Dr. Riser will be found at the court house in the grand jury room as heretofore.

Mr. Chas. Henry Richards of Maybington, spent Saturday in Union with friends.

encouraging them, as he was opposed to the dispensary. He said that it was also reported that Sheriff Fant had done nothing towards enforcing the law and he was simply calling his attention to these matters, he being a new official. He said that he had sent three detectives into Union and each of them had reported that a condition of lawlessness prevailed in respect to the blind tiger situation. "I have simply done my duty," said the Governor, "in trying to get the officials of Union to enforce the laws." —W. F. Caldwell in News and Courier.

**WORST CALAMITY KNOWN
SINCE THE GALVESTON
CATASTROPHE.**

Dayton and Hamilton, Ohio, Wiped Off the Map—Many Small Towns in Indiana Swept Away—Awful Story of Terrible Holocaust Cannot Be Told Until Waters Subside—Loss of Property Will Reach the Millions

Chicago, March 26.—Three thousand may have perished in the deluge which swept northern Ohio river valley yesterday and today. Probably half a million were made homeless by the flood in Indiana and Ohio and property damage in both States will be at least \$100,000,000.

These figures were compiled this afternoon from reports received here from various points in the stricken district. Further reports may increase the number of dead and it is unlikely that any decrease in financial loss will be made.

An additional horror was reported early this evening from Dayton. Fire there, which seemed widespread and probably uncontrollable, in view of the paralysis of the water plant, probably brought a horrible death to many who sought to escape drowning by climbing to upper floors of buildings.

Following are revised figures of the dead:

Ohio—Dayton 2,000; Piqua 540; Delaware 100; Middletown, 100; Sidney 50; Hamilton 12; Tippencanoe 3; Tiffin 50; Fremont 11; scattering 200. Total 3,066.

Indiana—Peru 150; Newcastle 3; Lafayette 2; Indianapolis 14; Noblesville 2; scattering 25. Total 196. Grand total 3,262.

Dayton, O., March 26.—Fire which started in the flood-bound business district of the city late this afternoon, gained renewed headway at 11:30 o'clock tonight. It is impossible to designate accurately what buildings are burning as rushing torrents of water down the principal streets preclude approach nearer than a mile and a half of the fire center. The city has been placed under martial law.

That a fierce fire which appeared to be sweeping through the half-submerged business district of Dayton tonight, had destroyed the Beckel house, where there were supposed to be more than 200 flood refugees, was the consensus of opinion of scores of watchers on top of the National Cash Register building, nearly two miles from the scene of the flames.

Chicago, March 25.—Floods almost unprecedented in area, following the tornadoes and rains of the last three days, today swept four States of the Mississippi valley, causing a loss of life that may reach into the hundreds and damage to property amounting to many millions of dollars. Ohio and Indiana and a lesser degree Illinois and Missouri felt the brunt of the disaster. At Dayton more than 60 persons are reported drowned, following the breaking of the Miami river levee and the Laramie reservoir, 50 miles above the city. When the Associated Press correspondents wired, on reaching the city, anxiety caused by the loss of life was set at rest, although there was great difficulty in obtaining details. Marooned in office buildings in the centre of the town, hundreds of persons were awaiting rescue. Streets heretofore considered miles from the danger line are under eight feet of water, the torrential force of which precludes rescue in boats.

The climax of the flood in Ohio was reached at Dayton, where tonight it was reported that the water is from 20 to 40 feet deep in many streets; that bodies were floating past the windows of office buildings and that the catastrophe assumed the proportions of a tidal wave.

At Delaware scores are reported dead and that many are missing. B. V. Leas mayor of that city, reported drowned, has been saved. He estimated the death list at from 25 to 75. Otto, a hamlet of 100 persons, was said to be destroyed, and the fate of the inhabitants was unknown. The death list in many cities and towns, including Fort Wayne, LaFayette, Richmond, Marion, Muncie, Kokomo, Connersville and Logansport totaled 15 persons.

At LaFayette the loss extends to millions. Richmond is in darkness and 20 bridges in Wayne county were destroyed.

At Rushville half a million dollars of damage was done in the business and the residence districts. At Kokomo the property loss was estimated at \$1,000,000 and 500 persons are living in the second stories of their houses.

Similar conditions were reported from Anderson, Marion, Tipton, Peru and Noblesville. Reports concerning the appalling nature of the floods, which in most instances it was impossible to verify, were received tonight from widely scattered sources. The most serious of these were:

An unconfirmed report from Springfield, Ohio, that 5,000 lives had been lost at Dayton and 500 at Piqua. A report apparently more fully accurate from 200 to 500 had been drowned at Peru, Ind.

A message received at Phoneton, Ohio, that the reservoir at Hamilton had broken and that 1,000 persons had been drowned. Continued efforts for verification were futile.

An unconfirmed but persistent rumor from Marion, Ind. that the Grand reservoir at Celina, Ohio, had gone out, causing an unprecedented flood in the Wabash valley.

Later reports from Delaware, Ohio, said that 75 to 100 were dead. More conservative figures cut this report in half. In few cases was it possible to trace these reports to any definite source.

Ohio, Indiana and parts of Illinois and Missouri suffered most severely. Fayette, in Indiana, and Delaware, Terre Haute, Indianapolis and LaFayette, Columbus and Youngstown, in Ohio, present particularly pitiful spectacles. In all these cities there was some loss of life, according to reports available, and in each city the property loss was heavy.

In Delaware, Ohio, 19 persons are known to have lost their lives, and 30 to 50 others are missing. Terre Haute, swept by a disastrous tornado last Sunday, today was partly inundated, interfering with the removal of stricken families. The death list still remained at 20, while the list of injured aggregates 250.

Porter-Scales.

Mr. James Scales and Miss Lizzie Porter of Monarch were united in the bond of holy matrimony Saturday afternoon, March 23rd, at 8 o'clock at the home of the officiating minister, Rev. J. A. Anderson.

Miss Porter is a well known and attractive young lady of Monarch, where she has been living for a number of years.

Mr. Scales is a well known farmer formerly of Adamsburg, but now residing at Glenn Springs. They have the best wishes of their friends for success and happiness throughout their life.

**ORGANIZATION OF
BOYS CORN CLUB**

Each Member Will Plant One Acre of Corn and Prizes Will be Awarded at the End of Season According to Number of Points Credited—\$100 in Cash and Other Prizes Will be Given.

The Boys' Corn Club of Union county was organized last Saturday at noon, at the rooms of the Union Chamber of Commerce. Mr. F. W. Carnell, agricultural expert in this county, presided at the meeting and told the boys what could be accomplished in developing the corn industry through cooperative effort. Instructions were given the members as to cultivation, planting, etc., and everyone pledged themselves to follow the instructions to the letter. Each member will plant one acre of corn and prizes will be awarded at the end of the season according to the number of points credited. Taking 100 points as a basis, they will be credited as follows: (a) Greatest yield per acre, 30 points; (b) Best exhibit of ten ears, 20 points; (c) Best written account showing history of crop, 20 points; (d) Best showing of profit on investment based on the commercial price of corn, 30 points. A and B will be judged by a committee of farm experts, and C and D by a committee of school teachers.

The officers elected are, Herman Smith, president, Union; Herbert Howell, vice president, Buffalo; Lewis G. Gilliam, secretary, Union; Athens Jones, treasurer, Union; and members enrolled to date: Arthur Plaxico, Jonesville; William Vinson, Jonesville; Boyce White, Jonesville; Paul Page, Jonesville; Alvin G. McKinney, Jonesville; Walker Palmer, Union; Earl Bishop, Union; Earl Belue, Union; Herbert Farr, Adamsburg; Samuel Littlejohn, Jonesville; Roscoe Fowler, Jonesville; Harry Belue, Union.

Owing to the bad condition of the roads, after the heavy rain last week, but few of the boys who are interested in this movement were able to attend the initial meeting, however every boy present promised to secure at least one new member during the week and it is expected that fifty will have joined by Saturday.

Mr. D. Fant Gilliam attended the meeting and expressed his confidence in the boy's ability to do great things if they would but try. Mr. Johnson, principal of the Union Central School, spoke along these lines and said that he would endeavor to interest the boys under his supervision in this work. Mr. W. K. Sumner, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, also addressed the club and promised to do everything possible to aid, and to work with the officers in obtaining information, etc., urging the boys to make free use of the Chamber of Commerce room as headquarters.

There will be \$100 in cash given away and also several other useful prizes. Up to the present the prize donations are: One pure Berkshire pig, given by Mr. Emslie Nicholson; one pair pure bred chickens, given by Mr. J. L. McKinney, Jonesville; one pure Berkshire pig, given by Mr. D. Fant Gilliam, Union; one spring-tooth cultivator, given by the Peoples Supply Company, Union.

Any boys wishing to sign membership blanks, can obtain them from Mr. F. W. Carnell, from any of the members or from Mr. Sumner at the Chamber of Commerce. There are absolutely no dues nor membership charges and it is hoped that all the boys will take advantage of this opportunity to join the club.

Services at Baptist Church Sunday.

Rev. W. D. Wakefield, who has been conducting revival services at Georgetown for two weeks will return to the city this week and occupy his pulpit Sunday morning and Sunday evening.

Notice.

There will be preaching at Philippi Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. The church was closed on the regular Sunday on account of the pastor being in Atlanta. Everybody is invited to come and hear Mr. Hodges Sunday.

**A MERCHANTS
BRANCH ORGANIZED**

At a Meeting of the Chamber of Commerce Held Tuesday Evening, the Merchants' Department Was Organized—J. Cohen Chosen President and F. H. Garner, Vice President.

At a meeting held in the Chamber of Commerce rooms Tuesday evening, March 25th, the Merchants Department of the Union Chamber of Commerce was organized under the system of The Merchants Credit Company of Macon, Ga.

Mr. T. C. Plunkett, general organizer of the Merchants Credit Company addressed the meeting and assisted in effecting the local organization.

By this system all individuals as well as firms are placed on record showing at how many places they deal, what amount of credit they obtain, and how they pay each firm with which they have had credit dealings, accordingly they are rated "prompt pay," "fair pay," "slow pay," and "no pay."

People who pay one or two merchants in order to use them as a reference to get credit from others, and then neglect to pay them, form the class that is largely responsible for the losses in the business world.

The aim of the system is to show such persons in their true light, and make it necessary for them to pay cash, thus reducing losses in extending credit.

"What the trading public should insist upon," said Mr. Plunkett, "is that their merchants give them a rating so that when they ask for credit all that is necessary is to refer to the credit guide."

"There are many people who are not intentionally slow in paying their accounts, but are neglectful, and when they understand that they must be rated they will endeavor to secure the best rating possible, and will be more prompt instead of allowing their bills to accumulate. The Credit Rating Guide is now published in all of the Southern States and renewed every twenty months. In some States every hamlet is organized under this system."

"People moving from one State or county to another are followed by a searching special reporting service which shows if they are good or bad risks for credit, and for what amount."

"Supplements to the Credit Rating Guide are issued every sixty days in the form of a secretary's report, keeping the rating book constantly up to date."

"Each subscriber is furnished with letters to send to all delinquent debtors that he may have on his books, giving them due notice to adjust their accounts so no one can complain there was an injustice done that one after the book has been distributed."

The explanation of Mr. Plunkett, who has charge of the organization work in this state, was so satisfactory that the merchants were glad to give their endorsement, adding that the plan is undoubtedly the very best ever offered for the protection of business men of this city.

About thirty of the Union merchants are already co-operating in this movement and it is expected that practically every business and professional man in the city will enroll.

Mr. W. K. Sumner, the secretary of the Chamber of Commerce will look after the affairs of the local credit and collection bureau.

Spartanburg, Greenville, Greer, Newberry, Anderson, Abbeville, Gaffney, Laurens, Chester and a great many other cities and towns in the Piedmont Carolinas are co-operating in the movement and it is planned to make it a State-wide institution.

Mr. J. Cohen was elected president of the new Association, and Mr. Fred H. Garner, vice president. An executive board will be appointed at another meeting which will be held at an early date.

Dinner for Chamber of Commerce.

There will be a dinner given by the Union Chamber of Commerce at their rooms Friday evening. The dinner will be served by the ladies of the Hospital committee, and will be in the nature of a general booster's meeting. All business men are invited to buy a ticket and attend.